

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/826,320

Examiner

Pierre E. Elisca

Applicant(s)

LIU, GARY

Art Unit

3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/27/007.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 5, 7-19, 22-32 and 36-51.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).


\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

  
PIERRE EDDY ELISCA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

## REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. This is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The closest prior art Fedlbau et al U.S. pat. No. 6,571,334 discloses a method/system for authenticating a sender that has sent certain information via a dispatcher to a recipient.

Sugio Naoaki et al JP02000050331 A

However, neither Fedlbau nor Sugio singularly or in combination discloses the recited feature:

As per claims 1 and 36 "providing the symmetric key to a third party, and if the intended recipient signs and returns to the third party a receipt including a representation of the encrypted message, transferring, by the third party, the receipt to a sender and providing the symmetric key to the intended recipient".

As per claim 3 "at the intended recipient, signing a receipt including a representation of the encrypted message and sending the receipt and the encrypted symmetric key to the third party, and at the third party, transferring the receipt to the sender and providing the symmetric key to the intended recipient if the receipt is properly signed".

As per claims 5, and "decrypting the separately encrypted message header to expose a symmetric key and a second message identifier, verifying the certified receipt, including verifying a signature of the intended recipient and that the first and second message identifiers are the equivalent, and after verifying the certified receipt, forwarding the certified receipt to the sender, and forwarding the symmetric key to the intended recipient".

As per claim 8 "creating a signed receipt for the encrypted message including signing a hash of the encrypted message and returning the signed receipt to a third party, after verification of the signed receipt at the third party, receiving the symmetric key from the third party, and decrypting the encrypted message using the symmetric key".


As per claims 11,17, 22, 23, 24, 27, and 31 "receiving a hash of the symmetric key, and generating a receipt including generating a message identifier prior to decrypting the message, the message identifier including a representation of the hash of the symmetric key and the message encrypted by the symmetric key, wherein the message identifier is able to be used to verify receipt of the message at the intended recipient without exposing the message content to an intended recipient".

### ***Conclusion***

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 571 272 6706. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Fischer can be reached on 571 272 6779. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

  
PIERRE EDDY ELISCA  
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**March 30, 2007**